



PATENT
P56598

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MOO-YOUL KIM *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/971,763

Examiner: BROOKE, MICHAEL S

Filed: 10 October 2001

Art Unit: 2853

For: INKJET PRINTHEAD

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR §1.181

The Honorable Commissioner
of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office action (Paper No. 11), mailed 11 April 2003, entry and consideration of the following timely filed petition is respectfully requested.

Folio: P56598
Date: April 21, 2003
I.D.: REB/asc

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STATEMENT OF FACTS

1. On the 11th of April 2003 the Examiner mailed a first Office Action (Paper No. 11). Paper No. 11 mentioned the requirement of labeling Figure 1 as "Prior Art."

2. Three copies of Decisions on Petition for the following references previously issued by Group Directors are enclosed:

- Paper No. 21 issued on 25 February 1998 for U.S. Application SN. 08/447,279 filed on 22 May 1995;
- Paper No. 15 issued on 2 October 1996 for U.S. Application SN. 08/343,939 filed on 17 November 1994; and
- Paper No. (unknown) issued on 15 December 1999 for U.S. Application SN. 08/985,544 filed on 5 December 1997.

ARGUMENTS AND/OR REMARKS

In Paper No. 11, the Examiner objected to Fig. 1 as not being labeled as "Prior Art" stating that "only that which is old is illustrated", and referring to MPEP §608.02(g), which states:

Figures showing the prior art are usually unnecessary and should be cancelled, Ex parte Elliott, 1904 C.D. 103; 109 O.G. 1337. However, where needed to understand applicant's invention, they may be retained if designated by a legend such as "Prior Art."

If the prior art figure is not labeled, the following paragraph may be used.

Figure [1] should be designated by a legend such as Prior Art in order to clarify what is applicant's invention. (See MPEP w 608.02(g)).

Applicant has explained that Fig. 1 is not "Prior Art".

First, nothing in any paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §102 suggests that subject matter which is "old" constitutes prior art.

Second, §608.02(g) merely suggests that labels accompanying some of the drawings are not inappropriate. Additionally, §608.02(g) uses the phrase "such as "Prior Art"". Accordingly, §608.02(g) does not require a figure to be labeled as "Prior Art", but merely suggests that the figure be labeled in some manner in view of the phrase "should be designated by a legend such as Prior Art in order to clarify what is applicant's invention". Thus, §608.02(g) does not state that the figure must be labeled. Further, the Applicant's invention is defined by the claims, and pending elected claims are drawn towards apparatus which can not be confused by the illustration of Fig. 1. In other words, Fig. 1 does not need to be labeled in order to clarify what is Applicant's invention as set forth by the

pending claims.

Third, Fig. 1 is not believed to constitute "Prior Art" as that term is defined by either 35 USC §102 or 35 USC §103. As evidenced from the Declaration/Oath, the Applicant is a citizen of Korea, and, as such, devised Fig. 1 in Korea in order to illustrate Applicant's discovery of problems plagued in the art. Therefore, since there is no showing that Fig. 1 was known to anyone other than the Applicant *in this country* nor is there a showing that Fig. 1 was *patented or published in this country or a foreign country*, then Fig. 1 can not be deemed to be "Prior Art" absent evidence to the contrary.

Fourth, Figs. 1 is simply an abstract representation of the art prepared by the Applicant in an effort to illustrate Applicant's discovery of problems plagued in the art in accordance with 37 CFR §1.83(b); this discovery is itself, together with Appellant's abstraction of the art represented by Figs. 1 part of the Applicant's invention. By identifying deficiencies in the prior art and then addressing those deficiencies, Applicant completes the inventive process. As such, Applicant's effort to identify deficiencies or other undesirable features in the art, does not constitute "Prior Art" as that term is used under 35 USC §103, and defined by 35 USC §§102(a)-(g).

Fifth, Applicant has never made any statement admitting that Figs. 1 is "Prior Art". The present application is based on, and is a translation of, Korean Application Serial No. 2000-58758, on which the Applicant has claimed priority as evidenced by the Declaration (Oath). MPEP §706.02(c) states, in part:

"The language "in this country" means in the United States only and does not

include other WTO or NAFTA member countries."

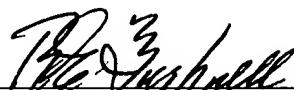
There is no evidence that Fig. 1 exists in any printed form other than in the present application and its priority document. There is evidence to indicate that Applicant devised the subject matter in Fig. 1 however, and that evidence lies in the fact that the only existence of Fig. 1 is in the present application and its priority document.

REMEDY REQUESTED

The Commissioner is respectfully requested to:

- A. Withdraw the requirement to label Fig.1 as "Prior Art";
- B. Return the prosecution history to the Examiner to reprove any assertion that Fig. 1 should be identified as "Prior Art"; and
- C. Grant Applicant such other and further relief as justice may require.

Respectfully submitted,



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Folio: P56598
Date: 21 April 2003
I.D.: REB/asc

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In re Application of
MYUNG-CHAN JEONG
Serial No: 08/343,939
Filed on : November 17, 1994
For: DIGITAL SERVO CONTROL
APPARATUS AND METHOD
OF DATA STORAGE SYSTEM
USING DISK RECORDING
MEDIA

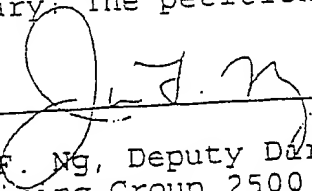
DECISION ON PETITION
UNDER 37 CFR 1.181

This is a decision on the petition filed on September 13, 1996
requesting the withdrawal of the requirement to label Fig. 3 as
"Prior Art".

The petition is GRANTED.

A review of the record indicates that figure 3 as originally
filed and discussed was referred to as "CONVENTIONAL". Hence, in
keeping with the disclosure and petitioner's arguments, the
examiners' requirement to label this figure as "Prior Art" is
incorrect and withdrawn.

Summary: The petition is Granted.


Jin F. Ng, Deputy Director
Examining Group 2500
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JFN/AMP

Robert E. Bushnell
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OCT 2 - 1996

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
GROUP 2500

DEC 13 1999
Office of the Director
Group 3600



ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

ROBERT E BUSHNELL
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1522 K STREET, N.W., SUITE 300
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-1202

DEC 17 1999
NA

In re application of
Hae-Won Ahn

PS4947

Serial No.: 08/985,544

Filed: December 5, 1997

For: FRONT CASE STRUCTURE OF CRT
DISPLAY DEVICE

DECISION ON PETITION
UNDER 37 CFR §1.181
REQUESTING THAT
THE COMMISSIONER
INVOKE SUPERVISORY
AUTHORITY

In the renewed petition filed September 9, 1999, applicant requested that the Commissioner invoke supervisory authority by instructing the examiner to withdraw the requirement that Figs. 1 and 2 be labeled as "Prior Art". The petition is GRANTED.

This petition presents two issues. First, are the figures in question necessary to the understanding of the invention? A review of the application has been made and it is considered that the figures are necessary to the understanding of the invention. Second, are the figures required to be labeled with the legend "Prior Art"?

A careful review of the application papers indicates that the subject matter of Figures 1 and 2 are considered by applicant to be "conventional". However, there is no indication in the disclosure that the subject matter of the figures is expressly considered by the applicant to be "Prior Art". If applicant states that something is prior art, it is available for use against the claims. See In re Nomiya, 184 USPQ 607 (CCPA 1975), MPEP §2129. No opinion is expressed in this decision whether the subject matter of Figures 1 and 2 are "Prior Art" since this is an appealable issue, MPEP §1201.

Finally, any concerns raised in the previous decision regarding applicant's duty of disclosure are withdrawn. The Office does not normally investigate such issues.
1135 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office, 13 (Jan. 9, 1992).

This application is being forwarded to the examiner for reinstatement of Figs. 1 and 2 and deletion of the amendment after final filed August 4, 1999.

Al Lawrence Smith, Director
Technology Center 3600
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AK

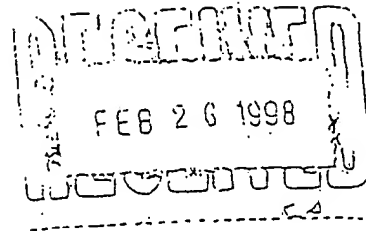
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FEB 25 1998

Director's Office
Group 2700

Paper No. 21

Robert E. Bushnell
1511 K. Street N.W.
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Washington, D.C. 20005



In re Application of
Gwon-II Kim
Application Serial No.
08/447,279
Filed: May 22, 1995
For: SERVO CONTROLLER
APPARATUS AND METHOD
OF DISK RECORDING
SYSTEM

DECISION ON RENEWED
PETITION UNDER
37 C.F.R. § 1.181

This is a decision on the renewed petition filed August 25, 1997 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181 of the repeated requirement of the Examiner to label Applicant's Figures one through three as "prior art". The petition is treated as a request for reconsideration of the previous decision of August 19, 1997 in which the requirement of labeling figures one through three as "prior art" was maintained.

A careful review of the application papers indicates that the subject matter of figures one through three is considered by applicant to be "conventional". However, there is no indication in the disclosure that the subject matter of the figures is expressly considered by the applicant to be "prior art". "When applicant states that something is prior art, it is taken as being available as prior art against the claims. Admitted prior art can be used in obviousness rejections. In re Nomiya, 184 USPQ 607, 610 (CCPA 1975) (Figures in the application labeled "prior art" held to be an admission that what was pictured was prior art relative to applicant's invention.)" See M.P.E.P. § 2129. The decision, supra, was cited by both petitioner and the deciding official in the previous petition. Whether the subject matter of figures one through three of the instant application is prior art against the claims is an appealable determination and, accordingly, will not be entertained in this decision, see M.P.E.P. § 1201.

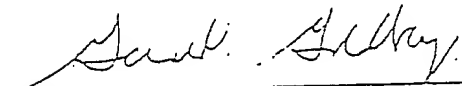
There is no requirement that a particular figure or figures be labeled as "prior art". The MPEP at section 608.02(g) indicates that if prior art figures are to be retained in the file they

should be designated with the legend "prior art". No requirement is made of an applicant to label figure(s) as "prior art" where there is no such indication in the disclosure.

Consequently, the requirement that figures one through three each be designated by the legend of "prior art" is withdrawn.

As the time for perfecting the appeal under 37 C.F.R. § 1.192(a) has expired without the submission of an Appeal Brief, the appeal is hereby dismissed, 37 C.F.R. § 1.192(b). The application file will be forwarded to the examiner for appropriate action in due course.

SUMMARY: Petition GRANTED.



Gerald Goldberg, Director
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Communications and Information Processing